

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~The present invention is an optical reader configured to adaptively digitize a set of image data in a manner that depends of characteristics of the image data. According to the invention, an optical reader subjects a set of image data to preliminary processing for developing peak characterizing data. From the peak characterizing data, the optical reader determines at least one digitization parameter and utilizes the at least one digitization parameter in the digitization of the image data. An optical reader is provided that can include an image sensor. The optical reader can generate an array of multibit pixel values. The array of multibit pixel values can be processed. In one embodiment, the image sensor can be provided by a 1D image sensor. In one embodiment, the image sensor can be provided by a 2D image sensor.~~